

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application
PCT/EP2003/013143 Filed November 22, 2003**

In the Specification:

Please amend the instant Specification, without prejudice, as follows:

Please delete all text above line 8 of page 1, including the heading “Prior Art” and replace the deleted matter with the following new section headings and title of the invention:

--TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Enzymatic Production Of Acyl Flavonoid Derivatives

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

At page 4, at line 1 thereof, please delete the section heading “Description of the Invention”, and insert the following new section headings and new paragraph:

--BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides process for the enzymatic synthesis of esters of flavonoids and flavonoid derivatives, comprising the steps of

- a) forming a reaction medium containing an organic solvent, a glycosylated flavonoid, aglycon flavonoid or flavonoid derivative, an acyl group donor, and an enzymatic catalyst under conditions in which the concentration of water is below 150 mM prior to the start of the reaction,
- b) removing water and alcohol, if any, formed during the course of the reaction in order to maintain their concentration below 150 mM, and
- c) separating the obtained flavonoid ester from the other reaction medium components.

Advantageously, the molar ratio of flavonoid to acyl donor in the reaction medium is maintained in the range from 0.01 to 20.00 during the reaction.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--